

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 27**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2005-075**  
**DATE: July 22, 2005 Time: 6:00 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor John Hoeven  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

1. **NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Summer Storms and Flooding** – On July 22, North Dakota received a Presidential Disaster declaration for severe storms, flooding and ground saturation.
2. **DEATHS AND INJURIES:** In addition to previous reports, a motorist in Adams County sustained minor cuts when the windshield on her car was broken by hail on July 21.
3. **DAMAGES:** The Bismarck and the Grand Forks Offices of the National Weather Service (NWS) forecast indicates there is a chance of evening and overnight thunderstorms. Large hail and strong winds will be the primary threat.

**River Statements**

Flood warnings remain in effect for the Red River at Fargo; the Souris River at Westhope; and the Willow Creek near Willow City.

River forecasts from the NWS, based on current observations, are as follows:

River	Flood Stage	Last Report	Comments
Red River at Fargo	17 feet	17.11 feet @ 7:00 a.m. July 22	River trend is falling
Souris River near Westhope	10 feet	13.73 feet at 7:00 a.m. July 22	River trend is rising from runoff
Willow Creek near Willow City	10 feet	13.96 feet at 4:00 a.m. July 22	River trend is falling

The State Veterinarian reported as of July 22, 34 farmsteads in southeastern North Dakota have confirmed cases of anthrax. The cases are within a five-county area, Ransom, Barnes, LaMoure, Dickey and Sargent Counties. The known affected species are cattle, horses, bison, farmed elk and deer and sheep. The State Veterinarian has advised livestock owners in the affected counties to consult their veterinarians about specific vaccination recommendations. The environmental conditions, including large amounts of rain and warm temperatures, have been ideal for anthrax to vegetate and cause disease.

### **Adams County**

Extensive hail and wind damage occurred in the city of Hettinger on July 21. Baseball- to softball-size hail, lasting up to 30 minutes, was reported. Every house and building appears to have broken windows and damaged siding and roofs on its north side. The Hillcrest Nursing Home and West River Hospital had extensive damage to their windows. Adams County Courthouse had numerous windows broken and several cars sustained broken windows, lights, dents and major body damage. Hail also knocked holes in the roofs and sides of campers, as well as one house. The Lumberyard stayed open so residents could purchase plywood for their repair efforts.

### **City of Bismarck**

The City Emergency Manager reported 60 to 70 miles per hour (mph) winds and golf ball-size hail occurred on July 21 that damaged trees, windows, shingles and cars. Citizens also reported a few man-hole covers were displaced. Public Works/Forestry assisted with clearing debris from roads. Street sweepers are working on the north end of Bismarck, which appears to have been the hardest hit area. A loader has been used to clean up "mud spots." The landfill hours have been extended to accommodate cleanup efforts. The walking path along the Missouri River has been barricaded due to debris. A damage assessment is currently underway.

### **Burleigh County**

Wind gusts of over 60 mph and hail on July 21 resulted in residential damage and downed trees throughout the county. Significant damage occurred east of Bismarck, especially in the Apple Meadows Subdivision. Crops were damaged a couple miles north of Sterling due to hail.

### **McHenry County**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) County Emergency Board (CEB) reported the Souris River is covering the surrounding meadows and pastures from the overflow from Bottineau County and Willow Creek. The increased rain in June has also contributed to the overflow and higher water tables. Officials reported 666,375 acres were affected. Approximately 50,000 acres of land was damaged due to erosion and gulying. The county is requesting agricultural officials to release Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land for haying and grazing.

### **Morton County**

The County Emergency Manager reported the following damages occurred on July 21:

Rural Mandan: Winds of 50 to 60 mph, nickel-size hail and heavy rain resulted in minor flooding in low areas. One resident reported her horse trailer had been moved by the winds. Tree debris was removed from N.D. Highway 1806 by law enforcement.

New Salem: The area received one-half dollar size hail and heavy rain resulting in minor street flooding. In addition, a large rotation was reported over the city.

Reports have been received of several windows blown out and screens blown off houses. There have been several reports of water seeping into basements of homes and the Community Center.

Mandan: Hail of up to a quarter-size and heavy rain resulted in minor street flooding. Extreme damage occurred to manufactured homes in Twin City Estates, including large holes in siding, broken windows, damaged or missing roofs and tree debris. The Emergency Manager reported telephone service is down in several areas of town and cellular communications is very limited. Several power lines and poles were downed on Memorial Highway, resulting in power outages. Power has been fully restored to the south side of Mandan.

### **Nelson County**

The Emergency Manager reported on July 13 that Stump Lake continues to rapidly rise and is currently at 1,430.73 mean sea level (msl). Water from Devils Lake is flowing at 367 cubic feet per second (cfs). The County Road Superintendent reported that on July 1 another section of County Road 23 north of Tolna was closed due to Stump Lake's rising water levels. Other areas on County Road 15 and County Road 23 in the Stump Lake area have been closed since April 7. The 911 dispatch center has been notified of the road closures and first responders have established alternate routes for emergency calls. In Leval Township one resident has water coming into the basement of the home and has a sump pump running continuously while another resident has up to four feet of standing water in a pole barn and near a Quonset, which will soon be surrounded by water.

### **Oliver County**

The County Emergency Manager reported golf ball-size hail and heavy winds on July 21 resulted in damage to crops, trees, cars and homes.

### **Pembina County**

Additional road damages have been reported to include a township road damaged by bank erosion, which has been closed north of 108<sup>th</sup> Street Northeast. A second township road between St. Joseph and Felson Township, 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast along the Pembina River, has also eroded and is closed north of County Road 55. To alleviate water backup, the Pembina County Water Resource Board has requested several culverts in Drayton along State Highway 66 to be lowered and a regrade of the highway ditches.

Township officers have reported 36 infrastructure sites have been damaged by washouts, gravel wash or culvert damage. Eight county sites have also been identified. The cities of Walhalla, Neche, Pembina, Drayton and Cavalier have all reported flooding or high-wind related damage. The parks in Walhalla and Drayton have sustained damages, as well as the golf course in Drayton. The cities of Pembina, Neche, Cavalier and Drayton have pumping operations in process for their lift station to keep up with the excess moisture.

### **Ransom County**

Over 120 deaths of cattle, buffalo, sheep, horses and tame elk have been attributed to anthrax. Livestock in the affected herds have been quarantined and test results from dead animals are being studied by agricultural officials.

### **Renville County**

The recent rainfall for the month of June has caused damage to township, county and city roads. Homeowners throughout the county reported water-related damages to their homes. In the city of Glenburn, a majority of homes and streets have water damage and the lagoon is being monitored.

### **Rolette County**

The county has 56 sites that have sustained damages from the heavy summer rains; either from inundation or gravel being washed off from the water running over the road. Three farms have been isolated because of inundated roads, one resident is now able to drive a pickup truck across water to access his farm yard, another has had the county build up a dirt trail to gain access, and the third remains isolated due to water inundation.

### **Sargent County**

Agricultural officials are assessing access to the fields for harvest. Due to the flooding, crops will remain unattainable. Township officials have begun road repair in order to provide access to residents and safety to the traveling public. The drainage system around the city of Milnor is still full and running; any substantial rain would aggravate problems. The dike remains in place at this time.

#### 4. **RESOURCES:**

**LOCAL:** No changes from previous reports.

**STATE:** No changes from previous reports.

**FEDERAL:** No changes from previous reports.

5. **VOLUNTEER ACTIONS:** The Salvation Army provided 100 cleanup kits to Spirit Lake Nation residents. Approximately 300 people were affected. Another 30 kits were delivered to Pembina County on July 20.

On July 21, the American Red Cross opened a shelter at the Mandan Community Center as law enforcement reports indicated approximately 75 percent of residents of Twin City Estates have been displaced as a result of damage to homes. Some have found shelter with family, friends or neighbors. The shelter will remain open until further notice.

6. **MAJOR ACTIONS:** Governor John Hoeven on July 22 received notification that President Bush has approved North Dakota's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, designating 20 North Dakota counties and two Indian reservations as meeting the requirements to obtain federal funds for recovery from public

infrastructure damages incurred during severe storms and flooding from June 1 through July 7. Other areas could be included in the Presidential Disaster Declaration pending additional preliminary damage assessments. Counties and tribal lands included in the Presidential Disaster Declaration are: Benson, Bottineau, Cavalier, Dickey, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, LaMoure, McHenry, Nelson, Pierce, Ramsey, Richland, Sargent, Sioux, Stark, Steele, Traill, Walsh and Ward counties, along with the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewas and Standing Rock Sioux tribal reservations. The disaster declaration will open access to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant programs. All counties and Indian reservations in North Dakota are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The Public Assistance Program applies to the declared counties and tribal reservations. The federal government provides grants to cover 75 percent of the cost while state and local governments absorb the remaining 25 percent. The North Dakota Division of Homeland Security is prepared to provide state management of the Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant programs.

### **Bottineau County**

The Tri County Water Task Force toured Bottineau and McHenry Counties on July 21. The task force includes members from various water boards, county commissioners, emergency managers and city officials. Stops were made at the J. Clark Salyer Refuge, several areas around Upham and Willow City, and School Section Lake at Lake Metigoshe. The task force agreed that the water is receding in most areas. The placement of gated culverts at and around Lake Metigoshe has been completed. Culverts measuring 36 and 48 inches in diameter were placed at Mud Lake, 100 yards south of the intersection of Lake Road and Highway 43, Duck Lake and School Section Lake. Debris clearance has also taken place in these areas. Some of the culverts were opened to let water flow south from Lake Metigoshe and Duck Lake. There have been no reports of too much water flowing through the city of Bottineau after the culverts were open. The area will continue to be monitored for water rise. The next task force meeting is scheduled for July 28.

### **Morton County**

Extra security was placed in and around the perimeter of Twin City Estates in Mandan after a July 21 hailstorm created extensive damage to homes and displaced residents. Extend America supplied extra cellular phones with direct connect capability and also set up a booster system for better coverage in the Mandan Community Center. Bismarck/Mandan Security went door-to-door in Twin City Estates to help with anyone who needed special assistance.

### **Renville County**

On July 12, the Renville County Commissioners and officials for the city of Glenburn signed disaster declarations.

### **Sargent County**

Ranchers in the southwest portion of the county are vaccinating their herds in response to a positive anthrax confirmation in a dead cow. The Extension Service is assisting ranchers and veterinarians to address anthrax issues in the county. Clean-up kits with literature regarding water and flood clean-up are being distributed to local residents. Officials from the Shuman Township, the Water Board, Emergency Management, the Highway Department and the County Commission are working to develop long-term solutions to eliminate and reduce the threat to county and township roads due to Crooked Creek flow. A task force is being organized to address the flooding situation in Milnor. This group will attempt to develop solutions to eliminate or reduce future flood risk to the community. Homeowners in the communities and rural areas are still cleaning up and making repairs. The Health District is offering tetanus shots to residents.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No changes from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The N.D. Division of Homeland Security's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Susan Reinertson, Director  
N.D. Division of Homeland Security